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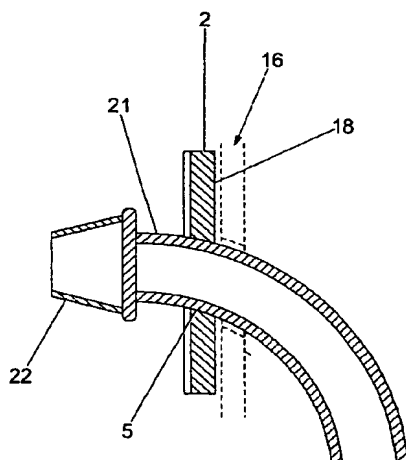
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(54) Title: **TRACHEOSTOMA CANNULA MOUNTING**



(57) **Abstract:** A tracheostoma cannula mounting, a cannula assembly incorporating such a mounting, and a method of mounting the same within a stoma are described. The mounting includes a generally planar sheet portion (2) provided with an aperture (4) therein of suitable size and shape to engage a channel portion of a tracheostoma cannula (21) in interference fit so as to present a rearward mounting face (18) adapted in use to lie against the skin of the tracheostoma patient in the vicinity of the stoma. The material from which the sheet (2) is fabricated comprises tacky gel material such as silicone gel at least in the vicinity of the mounting face (18), and is preferably made essentially entirely from such material.

AMENDED CLAIMS

**[Received by the International Bureau on 28 November 2003 (28.11.2003);
original claims 1-12 replaced by amended claims 1-1 (3 pages)]**

1. A tracheostoma cannula mounting for assisting in the mounting of a
5 cannula within a stoma of a tracheostoma patient comprising a generally
planar sheet portion provided with an aperture therein of suitable size
and shape to engage a channel portion of a tracheostoma cannula in
interference fit so as to present a rearward mounting face adapted in use
to lie against the skin of the tracheostoma patient in the vicinity of the
10 stoma, wherein the material from which the sheet is fabricated comprises
tacky silicone gel material at least in the vicinity of the mounting face.
2. A tracheostoma cannula mounting in accordance with claim 1 wherein
the inner edge defining the aperture in the mounting member presents a
15 surface of tacky gel material to contact with the cannula in use.
3. A tracheostoma cannula mounting in accordance with claim 1 or claim 2
wherein the sheet portion comprise a tacky gel layer in a multi-layer
sheet.
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4. A tracheostoma cannula mounting in accordance with claim 1 or claim 2
wherein the sheet portion consists essentially solely of the tacky gel
material, save for an optional thin layer of non-tacky protective material
at edges and/or faces of the sheet portion which are adapted to lie
25 externally in use and/or be removed prior to use.
5. A tracheostoma cannula mounting in accordance with any preceding
claim wherein the aperture in the sheet portion of the mounting member
is generally circular and shaped and sized to engage the outer

circumference of the channel portion of a generally cylindrical cannula in interference fit.

- 5 6. A tracheostoma cannula mounting in accordance with claim 5 wherein the mounting member is generally circular, such that the mounting member comprises an annular portion of sheet material.
7. A tracheostoma cannula mounting in accordance with any preceding claim wherein the sheet material is 1 to 7 mm thick.
- 10 8. A tracheostoma cannula mounting in accordance with any preceding claim further comprising a removable non-tacky protective layer over the mounting surface which can readily be removed by a user to expose the tacky surface of the gel to allow the mounting member to be applied.
- 15 9. A tracheostoma cannula comprising a central channel portion adapted to be received through a stoma, a forward portion adapted to sit externally of the stoma in use and a mounting portion adapted to sit within the trachea abutting an internal surface of the stoma in use, and comprising a flange portion of increased cross section to the body portion so as to
20 assist in retaining the cannula within the stoma, and further comprising a mounting in accordance with any preceding comprising a sheet portion provided with an aperture so sized and shaped as in use to be retained around the channel portion of the cannula immediately external of the
25 stoma in interference fit, so as to present a mounting face engageable upon the external surface of the tracheal region of the wearer in the vicinity of the stoma in use.
- 30 10. A method of sealably mounting a cannula in a tracheostoma comprises the steps of inserting a cannula into the stoma, applying a mounting in

accordance with any of claims 1 to 9 therearound so as to present the mounting face to the skin of the external surface of the tracheal region of a wearer in the vicinity of the stoma, applying pressure to effect a releasable seal between mounting face and skin.

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11. A tracheostoma cannula mounting, a tracheostoma cannula assembly, or a method substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.